

LETTER

RESPONSE

Letter L3

From: Sarah Taylor <bdb1978@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 02, 2014 11:12 AM
To: Slovick, Mark
Subject: Lilac Hills Ranch

I'm writing to you as a member of the Valley Center community to let you know that I'm absolutely, 100% opposed to the Lilac Hills Ranch development. Our community has already made it's stance on this issue known but I also wanted to express my own concerns. We are on a mandatory water restriction which is hard on me personally since I operate a small farm. This development wants to build an 8 acre water containment system. Won't that keep that 8 acres of water from going back into the groundwater that Valley Center residents with wells depend on? We are in the midst of a historic drought and now this development wants to strain our water supply even further? This is a terrible idea and not one person I've spoken to in Valley Center has been in support of it. Please reconsider any approval of this development, the environmental impact is far too detrimental.

Thank You,
 Sarah Taylor

L3-1

L3-1 The County acknowledges this comment and the opposition to the project. Water supply for the project would come from the Valley Center Municipal Water District (VCMWD) which is imported from San Diego County Water Authority. Pursuant to Senate Bill 610 and Senate Bill 221, a Water Supply Assessment (WSA) was prepared for the project by the VCMWD (see Appendix Q of the FEIR). The WSA report evaluates water supplies that are or will be available during normal, single dry year, and multiple dry water years during a 20-year projection to meet existing demands, existing plus projected demands of the project, and future water demands served by the VCMWD. Based on the VCMWD's water supply reliability analysis contained in the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, the WSA concludes that the VCMWD would have adequate water supply to meet and exceed expected demands for a 20-year planning horizon, including the project. In addition, the VCMWD issued an updated letter dated May 6, 2014 verifying that the conclusions of the WSA are still valid considering recent drought conditions and associated water use restrictions. This letter has been included as a cover letter to Appendix Q of the FEIR.

The commenter's reference to a "8 acre water containment system" is referring to either the 7.9 acres of detention basins proposed around the project site or the 8.1-acre wet weather storage. In either case, these project features would not deplete Valley Center's groundwater table, as indicated by the commenter. Detention basins are meant to contain runoff so that it infiltrates rather than exits the project site in the form of storm water runoff. The wet weather storage area is a required element of the proposed on-site wastewater treatment plant. This storage area is needed to impound recycled water during periods of time when irrigation is not needed if no other disposal system is available. This would not deplete groundwater supplies because the stored water would be recycled water largely originating from imported water sources, not groundwater. Further, the project's recycled water would be treated to a tertiary level and recycled through landscape water use, providing an additional source of replenishment to the groundwater table. The comment will be included as part of the record and made available to the decision makers prior to a final decision on the proposed project.